

Message Text

PAGE 01 LONDON 00469 101914Z

67

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

----- 066278

R 101856Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6992

INFO USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

S E C R E T LONDON 00469

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-L

TAGS: PFOR, SA, SU, EG, UK

SUBJECT: POSSIBILITY OF RED SEA "ECONOMIC UNION"

REF: JIDDA 81

1. IN OUR MEETING JANUARY 9 (REPORTED SEPARATELY)
FCO'S PARSONS GOT TO TALKING ABOUT SAUDI SUBSIDIZATION
OF DEVELOPMENT IN EGYPT. ARGUMENT, WHICH PARSONS HAS
USED BEFORE, WAS THAT IMMENSE EGYPTIAN DEVELOPMENTAL
NEEDS CAN EASILY CONSUME ANY SURPLUS OIL EARNINGS OF
THE SAUDIS.

2. AT THAT POINT PARSONS SURPRISED US BY INJECTIN
SUDAN. HE SAID SAUDIS ARE CURRENTLY VERY HOT ON SUDAN,
LIKE THE REGIME THERE, AND WANT TO HELP IT. THERE WAS
NO MENTION OF "ECONOMIC UNION" AS SUCH. NOR WAS THIS
SORT OF ASSISTANCE SPEFR
TLYVOD ON CURRENT BRITISH
DISCUSSIONS OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN RETURN FOR
GUARANTEED OIL. BUT SOME CONNECTION MAY EXIST.

3. WE THOUGHT BETTER OF CALLING PARSONS BACK AFTER
RECEIPT REFTEL. WE MIGHT ASK BRITISH ABOUT THIS LATER
ON, SHOULD MORE EVIDENCE DEVELOP. IN MEANWHILE, JIDDA
SECRET

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MAY WISH TO GET A BRITISH REACTION FROM AMBASSADOR
ROTHNIE, IF SENSITIVITY OF SOURCE PERMITS.

SOHM

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

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JIDDA
KHARTOUM
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